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Philippines: President Marcos' protestations of innocence in the anti-American drift in student agitation reflect his uneasiness over US awareness of his involvement.

Marcos on 20 February summoned the US ambassador to the presidential palace, where he and Mrs. Marcos apologized for the violent demonstration outside the US Embassy on 18 February and insisted they were caught by surprise. They blamed Foreign Secretary Romulo and Labor Secretary Ople for the increasingly anti-US cast of student protests and stated that the two might have to be removed from office. Romulo, who in recent years has made a fetish of needling the US in order to erase his "American boy" reputation, and Ople, an avowed sympathizer with leftist causes, are logical candidates if Marcos is hunting for scape-goats.

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